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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Venezuela

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE: 25X1A

SUBJECT Romulo Betancourt's Unsuccessful Bid for Support
from the Communist Party

INFO. [REDACTED]

DIST. 2 September 1947

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ORIGIN [REDACTED]

This document is hereby regraded to
CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the
letter of 16 October 1978 from thePAGES
SUPPLEMENT

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1. [REDACTED] Juan Fuenmayor, prominent member of the Partido Comunista de Venezuela (PCV - Communist Party of Venezuela), had a three hour meeting on the night of 30 July 1947 with President Romulo Betancourt at the latter's request. Betancourt discussed the recent labor problems of the oil companies in Venezuela, and the Government's intervention and arrest of a considerable number of labor leaders. In this discussion Betancourt is alleged to have taken the position that the Government of Venezuela must necessarily go to the Right at present, but he claimed that in a year or two the government would swing more and more to the Left. Betancourt is quoted as saying that the government had given the "oil companies and the Yankees only a few pinches." The main purpose of the interview appeared to be to get the Communists to agree to refrain from making any trouble for the present and from joining Rightist elements in any opposition to the present government.
2. It is further reported that Fuenmayor was greatly influenced by Betancourt in the above interview and urged acceptance of his proposition at a large meeting of Communist Party officials held on 3 August 1947. Fuenmayor's motion for acceptance of Betancourt's proposal was soundly defeated at this meeting. The great majority of those present agreed that now is the time to gain strength for the Communist Party among the oil workers, and that the best way to accomplish this would be to cause even more embarrassment for the Government, make more demands for the oil workers, and work harder to convince the oil workers who are now members of Accion Democratica unions that the Communist party is the only party which is truly working for the laborer's interests.

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NO CHANGE in Class. [REDACTED]
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